language "a control signal" would be changed to "at least one control signal" to admit of the possibility that the signals A and B of Figure 3 of the specification may be separately and independently generated.

Notice of entry of the amendment, including notice by telephone if possible, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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10. The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising means for receiving said at least one control signal and in response thereto producing a first control signal for the switch-mode converter stage and a second control signal for the linear regulator stage.

12. A variable output RF amplifier for amplifying an RF input signal to produce an RF output signal, comprising:

voltage regulator means for producing a specified voltage within a range of voltages in accordance with at least one control signal, produced independently of the RF input signal, for performing at least one of level control and burst control; and

a power amplifier including a final amplification stage having the specified voltage as a supply voltage and having a drive signal causing the final amplification stage to be driven repeatedly between two states, a hard-on state and a hard-off state, without operating the amplifier in a linear operating region for an appreciable percentage of time.

13. A method of controlling a power level of a power amplifier for amplifying an RF input signal to produce an RF output signal, comprising:

generating a specified voltage in accordance with at least one control signal, produced independently of the RF input signal, for performing at least one of level control and burst control;

applying the specified voltage to a power amplifier as a supply voltage of a final amplification stage of the power amplifier; and

repeatedly driving the final amplification stage between two states, a hard-on state and a hard-off state, without operating the amplifier in a linear operating region for an appreciable percentage of time.

14. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the at least one control signal is for performing both level control and burst control.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the at least one control signal is for performing both level control and burst control.

16. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the power amplifier is controlled without continuous or frequent feedback adjustment of the RF output signal.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the power amplifier is controlled without continuous or frequent feedback adjustment of the RF output signal.